1/16/03

# DRAFT OUTLINE 2004 WATER USE EFFICIENCY PROPOSAL SOLICITATION PACKAGE

This outline is being circulated to gather comments and suggestions for the development of the 2004 Water Use Efficiency Proposal Solicitation Package. We anticipate that this Proposal Solicitation Package will be released in the Fall of 2003.

We would especially appreciate comments related to the proposed review and selection process, the selection criteria, and the approximate distribution of funds for the different types of projects.

Please provide comments by January 30, 2003 to:

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### I. BACKGROUND, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The universal goal of the Water Use Efficiency Program is to reduce irrecoverable water losses, improve water quality, and attain environmental benefits through water use efficiency measures and to document those benefits.

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program, a cooperative effort of over 20 State and Federal agencies with management or regulatory responsibilities for the Bay-Delta, is committed to identifying and funding the most promising water use efficiency projects that contribute toward the goals of the CALFED Program. This Proposal Solicitation Package is being released by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) as part of Stage One Implementation for the CALFED Water Use Efficiency Program. DWR is the CALFED State Agency designated to manage these grant programs. For more information about the CALFED Program, call (800) 900-3587 or (916) 657-2666, or visit the CALFED website at www.calfed.water.ca.gov.

This program will fund agricultural and urban water use efficiency projects that contribute to one or more of the CALFED objectives: reducing irrecoverable water losses; attaining water quality benefits; and attaining environmental benefits.

## II. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS (presently under legal consideration)

## III. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS (presently under legal consideration)

Demonstrate a direct benefit to the Bay Delta system or, in the case of pilot projects, research, etc., show how the results of the project can be transferred to the rest of the State.

Any project that will wholly or partially assist in the fulfillment of one or more CALFED goals, consistent with the CALFED Programmatic Record of Decision and implemented to the maximum extent possible through local or regional programs are eligible.

This Program relates to the first action item of the CALFED Water Use Efficiency Plan: implement agricultural and urban conservation incentive programs to provide funding for water management projects that will provide multiple benefits which are cost-effective at the statewide level, including the reduction of irrecoverable water losses; attainment of water quality benefits; and the attainment of environmental benefits.

## **Implementation Projects**

This may be accomplished through the implementation of established Urban Best Management Practices (BMPs), Agricultural Efficient Water Management Practices, (EWMPs) or Quantifiable Objectives (QOs) that demonstrate a potential for achieving CALFED objectives. Or, the applicant may propose a broader or different approach to implementation of water use efficiency with an emphasis on linkage to CALFED objectives and the expected outcomes and benefits of the project. Priority will be given to implementation projects, and especially those agricultural projects that implement Quantifiable Objectives.

## **Other Projects**

In addition to implementation projects, applicants may submit proposals for other types of projects. Other project types include innovative projects (initial investigation of new technologies, methodologies, approaches, or institutional frameworks), research, pilot projects, feasibility studies, and education, training, or public information projects.

Approximately 75 percent of the funds will be dedicated to implementation projects and 25 percent to all other project types.

#### IV. INELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Projects that are locally cost effective (where the applicant receives benefits in excess of their costs) **are not eligible** for funding through this program.

Wellhead rehabilitation, new storage tanks providing expanded capacity, water supply, water treatment, wastewater treatment, flood control, conjunctive use, recycled water, or groundwater banking projects **are not eligible** for funding through this program. No funds will be available to replace existing funding sources for on-going projects, for political advocacy, for the purchase of water, for the establishment of a reserve fund, or for an applicant's litigation costs.

#### V. GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

Projects from throughout the State that contribute to the CALFED objectives will be considered for funding.

#### VI. AVAILABLE FUNDS

Approximately \$108 million of funding from Proposition 50 is available for agricultural and urban water use efficiency projects. During this funding cycle, \$30 million is available, approximately half of which will be dedicated to agricultural projects and half to urban projects. There is a \$5 million per project limit.

#### VII. COST SHARING

The applicant's cost share will be based on the split between applicant benefits and CALFED benefits.

#### VIII. DURATION OF PROJECTS

Funds shall be expended within three years of the execution of the contract. If the project exceeds one year in duration, a budget with discrete 12-month periods shall be provided.

#### IX. CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND CONFIDENTIALITY

All participants, including applicants and reviewers, are subject to State conflict of interest laws. Failure to comply with these laws, including business and financial disclosure provisions, will result in the proposal being rejected and/or any subsequent contract being declared void

All proposals will become public information once the solicitation has closed. Once the proposal is signed and submitted to DWR, the applicant waives any rights to privacy and the confidentiality of the proposal.

## X. PROPOSAL REVIEW, SELECTION, AND AWARD PROCESS

- 1. Proposals are received by DWR and initially reviewed by the CALFED Water Use Efficiency Agency Team: Department of Water Resources, United States Bureau of Reclamation, Natural Resources Conservation Service, State Water Resources Control Board, and CALFED.
- 2. Proposals are reviewed by the Science and Economics Technical Teams.
- 3. Proposals are provided to the Review Panel, (composed of CALFED Agencies, stakeholders, and subject matter experts) with reports from the Technical Teams.
- 4. The Review Panel members submit preliminary ratings, based on criteria established in Section xx.
- 5. The Review Panel convenes to discuss proposals, receive any additional clarification from the technical teams, and revise their scores, as desired.
- 6. The CALFED Agency Team receives final ratings and comments from the Review Panel and produces a preliminary list of projects recommendation for funding based on Review Panel ratings, geographic and categorical distribution, and availability of funds.
- 7. Public workshops are held and public comments received.
- 8. Final funding recommendations are presented to DWR and CALFED Policy Group, or their designee.
- 9. DWR makes the final funding decision.
- 10. Projects selected for funding will be posted on the DWR website at www.water.ca.gov.
- 11. Contract negotiations begin.
- 12. Final contracts are executed.
- 13. Projects begin.

## XI. SELECTION CRITERIA

Proposals will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

A. Relevance and Importance:	10 Points
B. Technical/Scientific Merit, Feasibility:	20 Points
C. Monitoring and Assessment:	20 Points
D. Qualifications of the Applicants and Cooperators:	5 Points
E. Costs and Benefits:	35 Points
F. Outreach, Community Involvement & Acceptance:	10 points

No project with an average total score of less than 70 points shall be funded.